

FORTHCOMING EVENTS ...

February

19th – 21st Feb	<i>Ashfield Schools Art Exhibition</i> The Idlewells Shopping Centre, Sutton- in-Ashfield	4th Apr	<i>Interview Skills Day</i> Joseph Whitaker School, Rainworth
26th Feb	<i>Braxtowe Diploma briefing session for Employers</i> Bramcote Park School, Nottingham	8th Apr	<i>Business and Enterprise Day</i> Fernwood School (Nottingham City)
27th Feb	<i>CREST Day</i> Hollygirt School, Nottingham	9th Apr	<i>14-19 Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire Conference</i> University of Nottingham
27th Feb	<i>What Skills do Employers Really Want?</i> Trent Vineyard, Nottingham (A training event aimed at those providing information, advice and guidance to young learners)	15th Apr	<i>Assessment Centre Day</i> Edwinstowe House (A day of activities for gifted and talented students in Yr 11, 12 & 13)
28th Feb	<i>Interview Skills Day</i> The Minster School, Newark	16th Apr	<i>Assessment Centre Day</i> Notts County Football Club

March 2008

5th Mar	<i>x:plore more Launch</i> The Novotel, Nottingham	24th & 25th Apr	<i>'Engineer it'</i> Nottingham Trent Univeristy
6th Mar	<i>Ambitious in Ashfield</i> (Event for learners from Ashfield schools looking at their options post-16)	22nd Apr	<i>Interview Skills Day</i> Farnborough School (Nottingham City)
7th – 14th Mar	<i>National Science & Engineering Week</i> (various activities taking place)	24th & 25th Apr	<i>'Engineer it'</i> Nottingham Trent Univeristy
13th Mar	<i>Interview Skills Day</i> The Gedling School, Nottingham	24th & 25th Apr	<i>'Engineer it'</i> Nottingham Trent Univeristy

April 2008

2nd/3rd Apr	<i>Sci-Tec Festival</i> Nottingham Trent University	24th & 25th Apr	<i>'Engineer it'</i> Nottingham Trent Univeristy
2nd Apr	<i>WRL Co-ordinator Meeting</i> Edwinstowe House, 12.30pm – 4pm	26th Jun	<i>Business and Enterprise Day</i> Farnborough School (Nottingham City)
3rd Apr	<i>WRL Co-ordinator Meeting</i> The Gateway Hotel, 9.00am – 12.30pm	27th Jun	<i>Electronics Challenge for Schools</i> Nottingham Trent University
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May 2008

1st/2nd May *Business and Enterprise Day*
Portland School, Worksop

June 2008

26th Jun *Business and Enterprise Day*
Farnborough School (Nottingham City)

July 2008

3rd Jul *Regional Schools Celebration event for Science & Engineering*
Rockingham, Northamptonshire

16th Jul *Business and Enterprise Day*
Arnold Hill School, Gedling

Please check the events listing on the NEBA website for more information on these events

www.neba.info

neba.info

Learning about work - For work - Through work

Spring / Summer Term '08

QUALITY AWARD SUCCESS

NEBA has successfully achieved a Quality Assurance Award from the National Education Business Partnership. The achievement comes following an extensive evaluation by a team of assessors who interviewed staff and gathered evidence from almost 30 representatives which included businesses, schools, colleges and partner organisations. A portfolio of written evidence was also prepared and submitted for the accreditation.

In the assessors' final report, NEBA's school programmes were commended for their clarity and consistency. They were also noted as being well communicated and highly valued by the participating schools.

The assessment team also recognised the speed and professionalism with which NEBA responds to businesses and schools, with an emphasis on information sharing and effective networking.

The effective partnership between the City and County Local Authority 14-19 teams and NEBA was also praised, and the support of partner organisations was considered to be impressive.

Margaret Chilvers, lead assessor, said: "It was felt that NEBA has achieved an effective brokerage between businesses and schools whilst acquiring a position of strength, mainly as a result of an expert and enterprising team."

Mary Brittain, chair of the NEBA Board, who received the Award at the National EBP Conference in December said: "I'm delighted that NEBA has achieved national recognition for the quality of the education business links we have developed and implemented. Despite the additional demands placed on us by the 14-19 agenda, this award acknowledges that we have not compromised our high standards of delivery."

Mary continued: "On behalf of the Board I would like to congratulate the NEBA team for all their hard work and dedication which has resulted in this well-deserved accolade, and thank local schools and businesses for their invaluable engagement and support."



WORK-RELATED LEARNING DATABASE GOES LIVE

The re-developed work-related learning database www.work-experience.co.uk/notts/2008 went live in November 2007 in conjunction with training sessions for all users in Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire schools.

One main priority identified for the development work was to ensure that the database was 'user friendly'. Feedback since the re-launch of the site has been encouraging with users highlighting that the advanced search facility is now assisting learners to find a quality work placement opportunity far more easily than before.

Phase 3 development work taking place over the coming months will see NEBA working with several employers from different occupational sectors to create a range of features and tools that will support them to work with schools.

These include:

- Learning outcomes for each diploma line are currently being developed with employer input
- These learning outcomes will be listed with placement details on the database enabling employers to offer a structured opportunity for learners
- Support materials for employers, learners, parents and carers will also be available on the database

Any employers who would like to contribute to this exciting development phase should contact NEBA on 01623 404345 to find out more.

14-19 EDUCATION – NEBA'S STRATEGY TO SUPPORT SCHOOLS, LEARNERS AND EMPLOYERS

14-19 Education – The Big Picture

The need to improve the 'skills set' of the workforce is clearly established by the Leitch Report* which acknowledges that attainment is being raised across the country but states that the rate of attainment improvement is slower than the rate achieved by our global economic competitors. The UK is slipping down the economic league table and we need to reverse this process if we are to maintain our current level of prosperity.

The Government has identified employer engagement as an essential component of the 14-19 Education Reform. The only way in which employers could be able to make a bigger contribution to the education of learners is if everybody involved ensures that the effectiveness and efficiency of their input is maximised.

The two prime areas in which more employer engagement is needed are:

- Curriculum design and delivery
- Work placement provision

The success of the new Diplomas is dependant on partnership working and employers must be an integral part of the partnership – helping to identify local market forces and their impact upon the skills set required of the next generation of employees. They can also ensure that the curriculum meets the training needs and reflects current best practice in the sector whilst assisting the delivery of that curriculum through helping in the production of learning resources.

Diplomas and Apprenticeships (including Young Apprenticeships) are significant components of the 14-19 Education Reform and both of these rely on work placements. Current feedback from employers, schools and learners is that the traditional KS4 work experience block placement is often an inefficient use of employers' effort. Although young people usually enjoy their placement and do learn about the world of work, there is room to improve the quality of the learning experience.

What is NEBA doing to support schools, employers and learners?

NEBA is working with the Diploma Development consortia – those schools, colleges, training providers and employers that have combined to offer one of the Diploma pilots, to identify Learning Outcomes that are achievable on work experience. This initiative will mean that schools, employers and learners will all know exactly what the learner is supposed to achieve whilst in their work experience placements. The Learning Outcomes will have resources available to support the delivery and achievement and will contribute to the learners' course work assessment.

The NEBA work experience database will be further developed to support Diplomas and improve general quality standards. Learners will be able to search for work experience by Diploma line of learning and by specific Learning Outcome. Schools, employers and learners will be able to access the resources that support the Learning Outcomes. An on-line application process for work experience will be developed with the opportunity to monitor



learner attendance and progress via the website.

The Business Engagement Advisors (BEAs) will help employers identify the Learning Outcomes they can offer and discuss with them the preferences they may have regarding offering block placements (2 weeks continuous) or extended (perhaps 1 day per week for several weeks).

NEBA has agreed with the Nottinghamshire Training Network (NTN) to launch a joint effort to improve collaboration between schools, colleges and training providers to ensure that employers' time is used effectively by minimising the duplication in approaches made to them. Key areas to address will be Health and Safety vetting and using an on-line application process that reduces the number of phone calls and letters that need a response.

Employer Ambassadors and Diploma Champions are being sought throughout Nottingham and Nottinghamshire so that the voice of the employers is influential, both in the development of learning opportunities, and in adopting strategies that ensure the efficient use of the time that employers are prepared to devote to education and training.

*"Leitch Review of Skills, Prosperity for all in the global economy - world class skills", December 2006, an independent review of the UK's long term skills needs commissioned by the Government.



STUDENT APPRENTICESHIP AWARD NOMINEES

The following students on NEBA Apprenticeship Programmes were nominated for the NTN work-based Learning Awards, and were successful in progressing to the final. The awards ceremony was held on the 24th January at the East Midlands Conference Centre where Nicole Stewart was awarded the runners up prize in recognition of her achievements.

Nicole Stewart – Student Apprentice, Retford Oaks High School.

Nicole Stewart began her Student Apprenticeship with 'Get A Head Training' and Rouge Hair Salon, Retford back in September 2006. She has successfully completed her Level 1 NVQ in Hairdressing and has been so enthusiastic and committed to her apprenticeship that she has now begun working towards non-cutting and non-colouring units in Level 2 NVQ in Hairdressing.

Her commitment to the Student Apprenticeship programme has been commended by Avril Greaves at 'Get A Head Training' and by Wendy Woollard, WRL Co-ordinator at Retford Oaks School who commented: "Nicole's attendance and commitment to the programme has been exemplary. She has developed confidence and interpersonal skills on her placement and is an enthusiastic and participative student who demonstrates a mature approach in the workplace."

Nicole has been successful at winning an inter-salon Silver Award at Rouge.

Mitchel Ward – ESF Sector Apprentice, Kirkby College.

Mitchel recently completed his Sector Apprenticeship with a placement as a Kennel Trainee Assistant at Coxmoor House Kennels and Cattery. During this time, his placement provider gave excellent feedback as to his commitment to the programme, with particular emphasis on his excellent attendance record, willingness to learn and mature behaviour.

As part of the Sector Apprenticeship Programme, Mitchel has completed qualifications in:

- Emergency Life Support – Adults
- Foundation Certificate in Health and Safety in the Workplace
- NCFE Level 1 Certificate in Employment Skills

He is about to complete Level 1 in Key Skills in Communication with JHP Nottingham and is currently undertaking training with A4e in 3 Wider Key Skills in order to complete his programme of learning.

YOUNG APPRENTICESHIP – THE FUTURE IN YOUR HANDS

Nottinghamshire Education Business Alliance has once again been successful in securing funding for the Young Apprenticeship Programme in Health, Care and Childcare, Construction and Engineering. 2008 will see the delivery of cohort 5 of this programme across these lines of learning, the third cohort to be delivered by NEBA in the Health and Social Care Sector and the second cohort in the fields of Construction and Engineering.

Linking academic study and developing key skills in these areas, the programme offers Key Stage 4 learners the opportunity to gain a relevant level 2 vocational qualification alongside a targeted work placement within an area of work that is of interest to them. All learners undergo a period of training at a local training provider while concurrently completing a 50 day extended work

placement. This is further enhanced by the organisation of various enrichment activities and events.

The Young Apprenticeship Programme is an integral part of developing and integrating learners into the world of work. Tailored to the needs of both the learner and the organisation, it is a positive method of developing skills outside of academic studies whilst at the same time allowing employers to develop their future workforce. This alternative provision is available to all Yr 10 learners (Sept 08), who are capable of achieving a level 2 qualification alongside the 50 days work placement.

If you would like to learn more about this programme please contact Sarah Fury, Young Apprenticeship Manager, on 01623 404294 or via email at s.fury@neba.org.uk

SMART MOVE FOR NEBA



Matt Smart has taken up the role of Chief Executive at NEBA, joining the team from Castle College in Nottingham where he had worked for 13 years.

During his time at the College, Matt developed learning opportunities for a range of learners including disadvantaged learners, those with disabilities and learning difficulties, learners excluded from schools and young, single homeless people.

He helped to establish and develop the Nottingham pre-16 Construction Academy and also played a part in the steering group Greater Nottingham Construction Action Group (CAGE).

Initially training to become a further education lecturer following a career as a development engineer and a short stint as a stuntman, Matt has worked in the FE sector for 24 years. He said: "As an under-achiever in school myself, I started to realise my potential only when I was able to study practical subjects kinaesthetically. This experience has given me a passion for helping to offer contextualised learning opportunities for those who wish to access them."

Since starting with NEBA, Matt has overseen the development of a policy to formalise Learning Outcomes for learners on work experience placements. He is keen to work with partner organisations and employers to set in place systems which maximise the benefits of work placements for both learners and employers.

Matt added: "With the current high profile of practical learning and the related increasing need for relevant work experience with the onset of diplomas, I am excited by the prospects and challenges offered by the post."

LEARNING ON THE MOVE!



The 'Lab in a Lorry' visited Henry Mellish and River Leen School (s) recently and proved to be a hit with over 300 KS3 learners.



Designed to inspire the next generation of scientists and engineers, 'Lab in a Lorry' offers 11-14 year olds the opportunity to explore science through specially created interactive experiments.

The 'Lab in a Lorry' programme consists of three 44ft lorries that have been visiting schools, youth organisations, major events, and communities free-of-charge across the UK and Ireland since early 2005.

Each lorry is fitted with three distinct lab areas where groups can take part in fun and informative experiments. The programme is delivered by volunteers – all practicing scientists and engineers. Everyone gets to try their hand at experimental science and think about the surprises and questions that arise.

Originally developed as a partnership between the Institute of Physics and the Schlumberger



Foundation, 'Lab in a Lorry' has hosted over 65,000 visitors throughout the UK and Ireland. The East Midlands Development Agency (emda) is currently funding a three year tour of the region by one of the lorries. The tour is managed by STEMNET and supported by SETPOINTS.

Institute of Physics spokesperson John Brindley said:

'Lab in a Lorry' is a fantastic experience for young people. It generates excitement and curiosity in science by letting them explore experimental science for themselves with the help of expert mentors.

The lorry will visit William Sharpe School, Manning School, Bigwood School, Top Valley School and Ellis Guilford School during this academic year and will visit 12 further schools over the next two years allowing learners across the county to experience the lorry for themselves.

CREST STAR INVESTIGATOR AWARDS AND SCIENCE CITY PROJECT



In September 2007 the BA (British Association for the Advancement of Science & Technology) launched their new Primary School awards called CREST Star Investigators. The awards enable young people to solve scientific problems through practical investigation. The activities focus on thinking about, talking about, and doing science. They are designed to be used primarily outside of class time (e.g. in a science club), though some are suitable for use in the classroom. As the Nottinghamshire deliverer for the secondary school CREST Awards, SETPOINT Nottinghamshire took on the role of local deliverer for the new awards. A number of schools across the City and County have signed up and one of the most interesting projects to be developed has been through Nottingham Science City.

Nottingham was awarded Science City status by the Government in 2005 along with only five other cities in the UK – York, Manchester, Bristol, Newcastle and Birmingham. This recognises the outstanding nature of past achievements and present strengths in science in Nottingham. It provides a great opportunity to build a distinctive future where our economic success is increasingly based on science and technology.

As part of the Science City Education and Training Group's action plan, SETPOINT Nottinghamshire and Nottingham City Local Authority launched a primary programme with 15 schools across the City. The schools were supplied with the Crest Star Investigator packs and a launch day was held in November. As a result the awards are being run in after school

clubs and are proving to be popular.

The final part of the project will be a display day at Nottingham Trent University in March where the learners' work will be showcased before the presentation of the Nottingham Science City Awards of Excellence. These will be awarded to schools that have used the CREST Star Investigators with KS1 and 2 learners, used the website, visited a science centre or invited one of SETPOINT's Science and Engineering Ambassadors to work in their school.

If you would like more information about the CREST Star Investigator Awards and how you could run them in your school please contact Peter Burnett at NEBA on 01623 404345.

SCHOOLS FLYING HIGH IN AIRPORT CHALLENGE

The first Nottinghamshire Inter Schools Airport Challenge took place at the University of Nottingham in November 2007. The event involved teams of six Y12 students from eight different schools. Supported by Construction Skills Ambassadors from Laing O'Rourke the teams were required to compete against each other to win a tender for installing disabled facilities at an airport. Each team had to work within strictly set budgets to put the best solution forward.

During the day each team were required to:

- Establish the facilities which an airport terminal building requires
- Determine facility costs
- Examine all plans carefully
- Prioritise budget requirements

- Submit their tender
- Present their findings to the panel of judges

As well as focusing on engineering skills needed within the construction industry the day enabled learners to put their maths and business skills to good effect within a very real business setting. The day was enjoyed by all those who attended and it is hoped it will become an annual event open to all schools across Nottinghamshire. The eventual winners on the day were the team from Nottingham High School for Girls, proving that construction is not just for boys!

The Airport Challenge is one of the Construction Skills educational programmes. This event was jointly organised by NEBA, the University of Nottingham and Construction Skills.



PIONEERING WORK IN BASSETLAW

The Bassetlaw Ambassador Scheme was developed as part of an overall strategy by the Bassetlaw Area Strategy group to ensure that the number of young people being trained and working in the district will increase to meet the demands of a modernised business environment.

Aims of the scheme:

1. To increase the awareness of work-related learning and changes in vocational education among local employers.
2. To ensure an active partnership with local employers in the planning and delivery of 14-19 education across Bassetlaw.
3. To improve the quality of work-related learning through employer involvement with education.

From an initial consultation with business representatives it was felt there was a need for a reference manual that employers could

use to help inform their employees on the principles of work-related learning.

This developed into a toolkit which can be used as a point of reference and contains information to brief and train employees.

The toolkit is split into 6 main sections:-

1. **Introduction and User Guide** – this contains a glossary of acronyms and terms used in education that some people from business may not be familiar with.
2. **14-19 Education in your Area** – this section contains details of local schools and colleges as well as information about partner organisations.
3. **Work-Related Learning 14-19** – gives an explanation of the term 'work-related learning' and the most common activities. This section also details how employers can become involved in activities and the benefits if they do. Health and Safety and Child Protection are also covered.
4. **Work Placements** – this section concentrates on work placements, giving tips and suggestions on how to provide

and supervise a quality placement for a young person.

5. **The 14-19 Diplomas** – with the introduction of the new diplomas it was felt that a section was needed to help employers understand the changes in education and how they can become involved.
6. **Ambassador Scheme** – explains the scheme and asks employers to fill in an expression of interest form.

Following the successful launch of the Ambassador Scheme and Employer Toolkit in Bassetlaw, NEBA has been approached by Newark and Sherwood Area Strategy Group and Mansfield Learning Partnership to take the initiative forward.

For more information on the scheme and toolkit resource, or if you feel you would benefit from learning more about work-related learning please contact the Business Engagement Team on 01623 404345 or email business@neba.org.uk

WORK EXPERIENCE PILOT TAKES OFF WITH AMBASSADORS ON BOARD

NEBA has been working closely with Connaught Partnerships over recent months to develop a work experience pilot for the company. The work experience project team was set up within Connaught to steer the process and included a range of staff from different areas of the business.

The pilot scheme is seen as an important step in formalising work placements and developing quality guidance and support for relevant staff. The company hopes to be able to roll out work placements across its UK operations after a successful completion of the pilot.

Connaught Partnerships provides planned capital programmes, reactive maintenance, estate management and gas servicing for the social housing sector. It also provides gas installation and maintenance, electrical, fire and water services to clients in the private sector. Partnerships with the local authorities and registered social landlords across Ashfield and Newark & Sherwood, plus long-term contracts with SMEs, form the basis of the Group's activity in Nottinghamshire.

The company has formed close links with Quarrydale School and The Dukeries Community College. NEBA has brokered these relationships and has supported the company by training seven 'Work Experience Ambassadors'.



Key features of the Connaught Partnerships work experience pilot include:

- Buy in from senior managers
- Preparation of an official company work placement guideline brochure for staff
- Work experience ambassadors recruited from various departments within the business
- Partnership working with NEBA
- Criminal Records Bureau checks completed for ambassadors by NEBA
- A training session delivered by NEBA to prepare ambassadors for supervising learners
- Formation of close links with local schools
- Placement health and safety checks completed by NEBA
- Interviewing learners for placement opportunities

NEBA business engagement advisor, Sam Webster who has been working closely with staff said: "The commitment of Connaught as a company to develop a meaningful, quality work placement programme is good to see. The company has chosen to build links with local schools and has realised the potential of supporting young learners. I know that the work experience pilot will benefit learners from Ashfield and Newark & Sherwood, but I hope the programme is rolled out to benefit young



people across the country. We have a growing number of companies who, by working with NEBA are supporting learners and helping to develop their employability skills."

As part of the pilot, several learners have been able to experience a work placement with Connaught Partnerships and comments about the ambassadors who supported them during their placement were very positive.

Lucy Schwind, workforce training manager at Connaught Partnerships Ltd commented:

"Connaught Partnerships Ltd believes that delivering structured, quality work experience placements for young people provides benefits for both our employees and for the communities in which we work. Sam Webster, from NEBA has been a vital member of the project team and has provided advice, support and guidance throughout the development of the programme. NEBA has demonstrated its support by providing ambassador training, CRB checks and initiating links with schools."



WORK PLACEMENTS - A GUIDING HAND FOR EMPLOYERS

Towards the end of 2007 NEBA published a new document aimed at the many local businesses offering work experience placements to learners in Nottinghamshire. Responding to the needs of the local business community, this guide is now available free of charge in both hard copy format and in pdf format, downloadable at www.neba.info/business/employerssupportpacks.asp

The guide aims to:

- Provide clear information and support
- Improve the quality of work placements for both learner and employer
- Enable employers to have a better understanding of NEBA and work-related learning

- Offer employers guidance and one to one assistance with any aspect of working with young learners

As well as a brief introduction to NEBA and work-related learning the guide outlines:

- The business benefits of offering a work experience placement
- An explanation of the placement process, the work placement database and the work experience portfolio document
- Hints and tips for employers to enable them to offer a quality structured placement
- Some suggested activities for learners to complete during the placement
- A brief guide to legislation around placements including Health and Safety, child welfare and equality of opportunity

To complement the information and guidance offered in the Work Placement Guide the NEBA business engagement team also offer training sessions and one to one meetings with businesses to cover all aspects of working with young people.

If you would like to receive a free copy of the guide please contact business@neba.org.uk or telephone 01623 404 345. The business engagement team at NEBA would also like to take this opportunity to thank all those businesses that are involved with work-related learning and continue to support work placements.



Two further titles have been added to the suite of x:plore more CD/DVD resources to support vocational learning and will be officially launched at a practitioner event on Wednesday, 5th March 2008.

Automotive Engineering has been developed by NEBA in partnership with four key players in the motor industry; Toyota, Stratstone, Pendragon, Evans Halshaw and Carter and Carter Group plc, a major provider of government funded vocational learning such as Apprenticeships. The CD ROM provides the user with an insight to the Manufacture, Assembly and Finish of Motor Vehicles; the Sales Reception of a Motor Dealership; Service, Maintenance & Parts; Design, Customer Needs and Marketing.

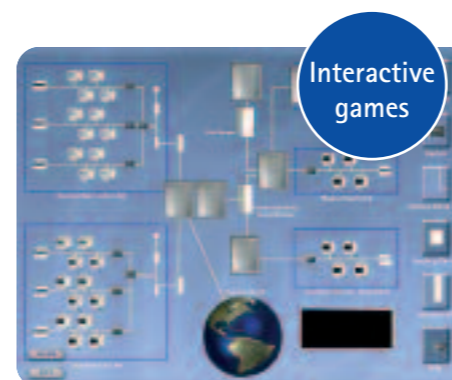
For the **Creative and Media Industries** title, NEBA worked with Confetti Institute of Creative Technologies, a unique establishment which houses a progressive learning institute alongside commercial recording studios and pre and post production film and television

companies. The DVD ROM features the following industry sectors:- Moving Image; Performing Arts; Visual Arts & Crafts; Digital & Interactive Media and Design.

Both titles, as with the rest of the x:plore more suite, showcase video interviews, virtual workplace tours, written and audio commentary, plus interactive activities and suggested exercises to enhance the learner's understanding and knowledge of each industry sector.

NEBA and Derbyshire Education Business Partnership are co-hosting the launch event which will highlight how x:plore more can be used as a support tool for the diplomas, along with workshops for Automotive Engineering, Creative and Media, Health, Society and Development and Information, Advice and Guidance.

If you would like to attend this event please contact Louise Hawkings on 01623 404345 or email l.hawkings@neba.org.uk



Interactive games



Site maps



Virtual work spaces

ASSURING QUALITY FOR ALL

Over the next few years an increasing number of learners will follow a course of study, whether it is a specialised diploma, a Young Apprenticeship programme or alternative provision, which will see them studying, not only at school, but at a college, a training provider or a community and voluntary organisation. To ensure that all students in these different environments are safe, learning and achieving, a coherent, consistent and shared quality assurance model is required that is fit for purpose.

Nottingham City Local Authority, through its Local Strategic Partnership, One Nottingham has a vision for a unified quality assurance system for all pre-16 students on off site

provision linked to a qualification. To work towards this vision they have provided Neighbourhood Renewal Funding to develop and trial a suitable model via a project led by NEBA.

NEBA has worked with 12 schools in the City and a range of providers, including the three FE Colleges, to agree ways of working and shared documentation. This work has included identifying what makes a quality provider, how provision can be assessed, verified and recorded, and what protocols and documentation are required for effective contracting and monitoring.

The project has also included working with employers to develop processes and

resources that support them in offering quality work placements with learning outcomes linked to the qualification that the young person is working towards. To achieve this NEBA is working through the Business in the Community CARES programme and supporting companies such as Capital One, Siemens, and John Lewis to trial different models.

This is a challenging project highlighting strategic issues which need to be considered by partners so that the vision of a unified quality assurance system can be endorsed and implemented across the City. NEBA will be producing an evaluation report with recommendations on the way forward at the end of March 2008.